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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

CABINET SECRETARIAT

RESOLUTION

(PLANNING)

New Delhi, the 15th March, 1950

No. 1-P(C)/50.—For some years past, the people of India have been conscious of the importance of planned development as a means of raising the country's standard of living. This consciousness found expression in the appointment in 1946 of the National Planning Committee by the Indian National Congress. The work of the Committee was, however, interrupted by political and other developments in the beginning of the war, although much useful material has since been published. In 1944, the Government of India established a separate Department of Planning and Development and, at its instance, the Central as well as the Provincial Governments prepared a number of development schemes to be undertaken after the war. Problems of planning were reviewed towards the end of 1946 by the Advisory Planning Board which was appointed by the Interim Government of India, an important recommendation of the Board being the appointment of a Planning Commission to devote continuous attention to the whole field of development, so far as the Central Government was concerned with it.

2. During the last three years, the Centre as well as the Provinces have initiated schemes of development, but experience has shown that progress has been hampered by the absence of adequate co-ordination and of sufficiently precise information about the availability of resources. With the integration of the former Indian States with the rest of the country and the emergence of new geographical and economic facts, a fresh assessment of the financial and other resources and of the essential conditions of progress has now become necessary. Moreover, inflationary pressures inherited from the war, balance of payments difficulties, the influx into India of several million persons displaced from their homes and occupations, deficiencies in the country's food supply aggravated by partition and a succession of indifferent harvests, and the dislocation of supplies of certain essential raw materials have placed the economy under a severe strain. The need for comprehensive planning based on a careful appraisal of resources and on an objective analysis of all the relevant economic factors has become imperative. These purposes can best be achieved through an organisation free from the burden of the day-to-day administration,

but in constant touch with the Government at the highest policy level. Accordingly, as announced by the Honourable the Finance Minister in his Budget speech on the 28th February, 1950, the Government of India have decided to set up a Planning Commission.

8. The Constitution of India has guaranteed certain Fundamental Rights to the citizens of India and enunciates certain Directive Principles of State Policy, in particular, that the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of the national life, and shall direct its policy towards securing, among other things,

- (a) that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood;
- (b) that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good; and
- (c) that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment.

4. Having regard to these rights and in furtherance of these principles as well as of the declared objective of the Government to promote a rapid rise in the standard of living of the people by efficient exploitation of the resources of the country, increasing production, and offering opportunities to all for employment in the service of the community;

The Planning Commission will:—

- (1) make an assessment of the material, capital and human resources of the country, including technical personnel, and investigate the possibilities of augmenting such of these resources as are found to be deficient in relation to the nation's requirements;
- (2) formulate a Plan for the most effective and balanced utilisation of the country's resources;
- (3) on a determination of priorities, define the stages in which the Plan should be carried out and propose the allocation of resources for the due completion of each stage;
- (4) indicate the factors which are tending to retard economic development, and determine the conditions which, in view of the current social and political situation, should be established for the successful execution of the Plan;
- (5) determine the nature of the machinery which will be necessary for securing the successful implementation of each stage of the Plan in all its aspects;
- (6) appraise from time to time the progress achieved in the execution of each stage of the Plan and recommend the adjustments of policy and measures that such appraisal may show to be necessary; and
- (7) make such interim or ancillary recommendations as appear to it to be appropriate either for facilitating the discharge of the duties assigned to it, or on a consideration of the prevailing economic conditions, current policies, measures and development programmes; or on an examination of such specific problems as may be referred to it for advice by Central or State Governments.

5. The Planning Commission will be composed of the following:—

Chairman

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Deputy Chairman

Shri Gulzarilal Nanda.

Members

Shri V. T. Krishnamachari.

Shri Chintaman Deshmukh.

Shri G. L. Mehta.

Shri R. K. Patil

Secretary

Shri N. R. Pillai

Deputy Secretary

Shri Tarlok Singh.

6. The Planning Commission will make recommendations to the Cabinet. In framing its recommendations, the Commission will act in close understanding and consultation with the Ministries of the Central Government and the Governments of the States. The responsibility for taking and implementing decisions will rest with the Central and the States Governments. The Government of India feel confident that the States will give the fullest measure of help to the Commission, so as to ensure the maximum coordination in policy and unity in effort.

7. The work of the Planning Commission will affect decisively the future welfare of the people in every sphere of national life. Its success will depend on the extent to which it enlisted the association and cooperation of the people at all levels. The Government of India, therefore, earnestly hope that in carrying out its task the Commission will receive the maximum support and goodwill from all interests and, in particular, from industry and labour.

8. The headquarters of the Commission will be at New Delhi.

ORDER

ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to all States Governments, all Chief Commissioners, all Ministries of the Government of India, the Prime Minister's Secretariat, the Private and Military Secretaries to the President, the Comptroller and Auditor General, the Economic Adviser to the Government of India, the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, the Secretary, Indian Tariff Board, Bombay, the Secretary, Fiscal Commission, the Secretary, Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, the Secretary, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, the Director General of Employment and Resettlement, the Director General, Industry and Supply, the Ambassadors of India at Washington, Moscow, Paris, Nanking, Cairo, Tehran, Kathmandu, Kabul, Ankara, The Hague, Prague, Buenos Aires, Jakarta and Rangoon, the Permanent Representative of the Government of India at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, the High Commissioners for India in London, Canberra, Ottawa, Colombo and Karachi, Charge d'Affaires of India in Brussels, Rome, and Rio De Janeiro, Envoy-extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of India in Berne, Lisbon, Bangkok and Stockholm, the Representative of the Government of India in Singapore, Consuls General of India in Pondicherry, Nova

Goa, Shanghai, Manila, Saigon, New York, Kashgar and San Francisco, Consul for India in Jeddha, Head of the Indian Military Mission, Berlin, Head of the Indian Liaison Mission, Tokyo, Deputy High Commissioners for India in Labore, and Dacca, the Commissioners for the Government of India in Trinidad, Nairobi, Port Louis, and Fiji, Vice Consuls of India in Medan, Zahidan Jalalabad and Kandahar, Secretary to the High Commissioner for India in South Africa—Cape Town, Political Officer in Sikkim, Ambassadors in India of Afghanistan, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Iran, Italy, Nepal, Netherlands, Turkey, United States of America, United States of Indonesia, U.S.S.R., Charge d'Affaires in India of Austria, Chile, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in India of Denmark, Ethopia, Finland, Iraq, Norway, Portugal Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, High Commissioners in India of Australia Canada, Ceylon, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom, Internuncio of the Holy See in India, the Librarian, India Library, Calcutta, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the Indian Standards Institution, Delhi, the Editor, Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research, P-Block, New Delhi, the Free India Service, Tamarind House, Tamarind Lane, Bombay, the Secretary to the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and all recognized Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations.

ORDERED also that a copy be published in the *Gazette of India*.

N. R. PILLAI, Secy.